



Speech Activity Update

Changes to Terms and Conditions for 2009-10

Speech Dates:

- **State Speech Clinic: Sept. 18 **Please note date.**
- Entry Deadline: Sept. 28
- Final Entry Deadline: Oct. 8
- Participant information must be submitted by Oct. 14
- State Contest Dates: Oct. 30, 31, Nov. 6, 7, 13, 14

Speech Workshop information will be available online this summer.

- * Registration for Speech will again be done on-line. You will receive registration instructions with your Speech mailing. Look for your initial Speech mailing in August.
- * For the 09-10 contest season, all participant information for all areas will be entered by each school on-line. No cards will be sent to your school. Once payment has been received for your entries, you, the coach, will receive a password and instructions on entering your participant information via the US Mail. This information will be compiled and sent to your host by the IESA.
- * The Board of Directors has instituted an admission charge for all spectators attending Speech contests. The admission charge will be \$1.00 for K-8 students and senior citizens and \$2.00 for adults.
- * Staging has been added as an adjudication criteria for all events. Judges and coaches should keep these questions in mind regarding staging: Was it obvious the movement was planned? Was there an appropriate use of the performance space? Were props used appropriately where applicable?
- * **ALL PARTICIPANT INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ON-LINE BY OCTOBER 14, 2009.** After October 14, all event changes must include a \$25.00 fee made payable to the host school. Participant name changes within an entry or the elimination of any entry will continue to be accepted by hosts with no fee.
- * Revised Definition for Storytelling: The student will tell a story from his/her own life experience, from folk literature, from his/her family's oral tradition, or from any other source. Storytelling is unique from most other contest events in that it should have a very spontaneous quality encouraging audience participation/interaction. The presentation should have a clear beginning, middle, and end, and demonstrate the customary attributes of characterization, stage presence, body and facial expression, articulation, pronunciation, fluency, and eye contact. The presentation may include multiple characters and sound effects.
- * Please make sure that you review the student eligibility requirements.

On-line Participant Information

All entries must be submitted on-line through the IESA Member Center Login. Participant information may be entered on-line for all schools who registered and paid for speech. All participant information (participant names, titles or selections, year in activity/school) must be entered by October 14th. This will give your host school the opportunity to efficiently schedule your contest.

Please do not confuse this with the entry information (number of entries in each category). That information must be submitted online by Sept. 29th.

A new policy was recommended and approved for the upcoming contest season. After the Oct. 14 deadline, all event changes must be submitted to your host school with a \$25.00 check made payable to your host school— i.e. changing a small

group to a duet, or changing a duet to a solo. The fee was established to compensate the additional time spent by the host school.

Participant name changes within an entry or the elimination of an entry will continue to be accepted by host schools with no fee— i.e. changing personnel within an entry, dropping an entry, adding names to an entry. The

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Speech Advisory Committee would encourage you to finalize your event and participant information as early as possible to avoid accumulating fees.

Check the web for updated Speech information.

www.iesaa.org

Points of Emphasis for 2009-10

Inaugural Year of The Fine Art Recognition Program!

This year nominations will be taken for the recognition of a veteran and new speech coach. Nomination materials will be available in the Fall of 2009. Selection of the award winners will be in the Spring of 2010 and recognition of the winners will occur in the Fall of 2010. Those eligible for The Class Act Award must have been coaching and teaching for over 8 years, and actively involved in IESA Speech. Those eligible for The Spotlight Speech Coach award must have been teaching for 3-8 years and actively involved in IESA Speech. Please take your time this fall to nominate coaches for this award.

Audience Protocol

- ◇ The Speech Advisory Committee asks that all schools review "audience protocol" with their parents prior to contest. Please make sure parents understand that the "protocol" assures students the best possible contest experience.
- ◇ Some points of review:
 - ⇒ Please do not enter performance rooms when a performance is in progress.
 - ⇒ Please turn off cell phones once in the performance area.
 - ⇒ Please do not take flash photography during performances.

Problems on Contest Day

If you have any rule or protocol questions the day of contest, find your Judge Representative immediately. Every contest has a judge representative who is there to interpret and resolve any rule or protocol discrepancies. Your contest host will be able to help you find this person.

You should discuss any rule or interpretation issue that you have with the Judge Representative as soon as that issue arises. Do not wait until the end of the contest day to discuss your concerns.

Judging and Award Inflation

The Speech Advisory Committee has seen Rating Inflation happen all over the state for the past decade. An increasing percentage of 1st place ratings are being given and thus the honor of being awarded 1st place has greatly diminished. As judges, we are watering-down our ratings.

The Committee has wrestled with this problem for several years and offer a simple rule of thumb provided by Roger Green, a former member of the Speech Advisory Committee who has judged literally hundreds of contests.

Roger said, "Every student who stands before me begins with a second place rating. That means you're doing just fine today. You can earn a 1st place by really impressing me, or you can earn a 3rd by not doing so well."

Roger's description is far from an official IESA declaration, but the Committee has passed this on as a suggested reference

point. Please help us keep the 1st place rating something unique and exceptional.

Fall Workshop

The Annual Fall Speech Workshop will be held September 18, 2009 at the Double Tree Hotel in Bloomington, IL. Registration material will be available online this summer. Workshop registration fees will be \$40.00.

Props

Please review all of the rules regarding the use of props. As a reminder, parts of the body are not considered props.

Adjudication Criteria

The Committee has been working on clarifying the many of the adjudication criteria and terms. Please review the Speech Terms and Conditions for the clarifications that they have made.